



Bluffton Police Department

For Immediate Release:

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Traffic Team Created due to Grant

The Bluffton Police Department has received the South Carolina Department of Public Safety Highway Traffic Grant totaling \$205,000 to help reduce collisions on local roads. The department applied for the grant last year as part of their strategic plan to reduce traffic collisions by 10% from the previous year. The grant allows the department to hire two officers for their Traffic Team with the intent to decrease traffic collisions, decrease collisions with injury and decrease fatal collisions.

"This Traffic Team is instrumental in removing aggressive and dangerous drivers from our roads," said Bluffton Police Chief Joey Reynolds.

The areas this Traffic Team will target include: US Hwy 278, Bluffton Parkway and SC Hwy 170. They will focus on motorists, who drive under the influence of drugs or alcohol, speed, follow too close, make an improper lane change, disregard a traffic signal or other traffic violations that can contribute to a collision. This specialized unit will also concentrate on seat belt restraints for both adults and children. They will be certified in the installation of child seats and will be available at public events to check car seats. These officers will also be involved in various types of checkpoints.

The grant has originally been awarded for a nine-month time period, but it is renewable for up to three years. The department has already submitted the application to have it renewed for 2017.

Two current officers from the Bluffton Police Department have been chosen to form this team. They will begin their first shift this Thursday, February 18, 2016.